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Number 5

MARCH TRIP TO SAN ANDREAS AND CRYSTAL SPRINGS RESERVOIRS

On Sunday, March 13, a large group of 56 met at Millbrae. It was a beautiful clear day but chilly with a brisk north wind. Under the leadership of Arthur Bennett the caravan proceeded west to San Andreas Reservoir where a few water birds were seen. The cars were parked near the dam and the group proceeded on foot up the road which leads over Sawyer Ridge to Pilarcitos Lake. At first we were in a dense woodland but later it changed to chaparral. A little short of the summit the group turned back, and drove down to the north end of Crystal Springs Reservoir where an Osprey was seen. After lunch a variety of water birds were seen on the shallow upper end of the reservoir. Finally a walk was taken up an old road along the marsh north-west of the lake. The following 65 species were recorded: Eared Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Canada Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, American Golden-eye, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Sparrow Hawk, Coot, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Glaucous-winged Gull, Herring Gull, California Gull, Band-tailed Pigeon, Anna Hummingbird, Allen Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shafted Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Steller Jay, Scrub Jay, Raven, Crow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bush-tit, Wren-tit, Bewick Wren, Robin, Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Hutton Vireo, Orange-crowned Warbler, Audubon Warbler, Townsend Warbler, Yellow-throat, House Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer Blackbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Spotted Towhee, Brown Towhee, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

— A. LAURENCE CURL, *Historian*.

MARCH TRIP TO FLEISHHACKER ZOO AND LAKE MERCED

On Saturday, March 26, a beautiful mild day, 44 members and guests met at Fleishhacker Zoo in San Francisco at 9:30. The gate was locked, so we took a little walk over to Fort Funston until the gate opened. We went first to the grassy, western part of the zoo, where a good list of birds was obtained in a period of about 30 minutes. Then we walked over to hunt the European Widgeon, which was found with a flock of American Widgeon in a deer paddock. Everybody got an excellant view of him. We then headed over to Lake Merced, on the opposite side of the rifle range. We walked for about two miles, as far as the gold course, then back to the meeting place where we had lunch. Later part of the group barded along the beach and to the Cliff House. The following 42 birds were seen at the Zoo and at Lake Merced: Eared Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Black-crowned Night Heron, Mallard, European Widgeon, Baldpate (American Widgeon), Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, California Quail, Coot, Killdeer, Glaucous-winged Gull, Western Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Mourning Dove, Anna Hummingbird, Allen Hummingbird, Red-shafted Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Rough-winged (?) Swallow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Wren-tit, Bewick Wren, Robin, Varied Thrush, Cedar Waxwing, Audubon Warbler, House Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer Blackbird, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Oregon Junco, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow. Arthur Bennett reported the following additional species along the beach: Pacific Loon, Red-throated Loon, Old-squaw, White-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, and Marbled Godwit; at the Cliff House the following were seen: Surf-bird, Black Turnstone and Wandering Tattler.

— CHARLES HINES, JR., *Historian*.

AUDUBON CAMP OF CALIFORNIA. The camp will be held again this summer at Sugar Bowl Lodge in the High Sierra near Donner Summit, under the direction of Mr. William Goodall, Pacific Coast Representative of the National Audubon Society (For address see box on back page). Five sessions will be held: June 26—July 9; July 10—July 23; July 24—August 6; August 7 - 20; August 21—September 3. The fee this year will be \$ 95. For information about the 6 half-camperships to be awarded by the Golden Gate Audubon Society see the March Gull, page 11.

FIELD TRIPS FOR MAY

Arrangements for the proposed field trip to Santa Rosa or Howell Mountain area were not completed, so this trip is tentatively scheduled for June and will be announced in the next GULL.

On Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8, a joint trip with the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to PINNACLES NATIONAL MONUMENT, San Benito County. Note that this is the week-end before the monthly meeting. This fine foothill woodland and spectacular rock formation area is worth extra effort to visit, both for its spring birds and for the scenic attractions. A nominal automobile entry fee is charged. Camp grounds are available; but it is suggested that those camping overnight bring food for meals through Sunday lunch and canteens or other water containers, as at a certain secluded area where we *may* camp water must be carried. Those arriving Saturday check with the ranger on duty for camp location; there will be birding in the vicinity Saturday afternoon. For those who may not wish to camp, overnight accomodations can be obtained in Hollister, 35 miles from the Monument. The conducted trip on Sunday will be afoot in the Monument, starting at 9:00 a.m. from the Headquarters building. Golden Eagles, Poor-wills, White-throated Swifts, Ravens, Canyon and Rock Wrens, Black-throated Gray Warbler and Bell's Sparrow are among the birds that can be expected, and migrant Vaux's Swifts, various warblers and Western Tanagers if a "wave" is encountered. To reach the Pinnacles from the Bay area, drive via U.S. Route 101 from San Jose to 2 miles S. of Gilroy, then left on State Route 25 to a well-signed right turn into the Monument 30 miles beyond Hollister. Total distance from San Francisco or Oakland is 120 miles. Leader, Harry C. Adamson, ATLantic 3-2164. Bring binoculars, telescope, camping equipment if desired, and interested friends.

On Saturday, May 14, to MT. DIABLO STATE PARK, in which certain oak-digger pine woodland areas, some chaparral and grassland will be visited, where such birds as Acorn and Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Violet-green Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Lark and Chipping Sparrows, and possibly Bell's Sparrow can be found. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in Danville (on Route 24 between Walnut Creek and Dublin) at the intersection of the Mt. Diablo road, which is marked by a sign near the center of town. Leader, Lee Stallcup, LO. 9-3185. Bring binoculars, lunch, and interested friends.

For information concerning the chartered boat trip to SE FARALLON ISLAND on May 22, see the April Gull.

— HOWARD L. COGSWELL, *Field Trips Chairman.*

AUDUBON SCREEN TOURS for 1955-56 will be held at the Berkeley High School Little Theatre, Allston Way and Grove St. Sponsored by the Golden Gate Audubon Society. The series of 5 lectures—\$ 3.50. Please make checks payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc., and mail to Audubon Screen Tours, P. O. Box 103, Berkeley, Calif. Prompt return advisable. Give name, address, phone no. and no. of tickets desired. Tickets will be sent in September.

— MRS. GEORGE C. BROWNE, *Screen Tours Chairman.*

MAY MEETING

The 452nd regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held in the West Auditorium of the Oakland Public Library, 14th and Oak Sts., on Thursday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m. Our popular Vice President and Field Trips Chairman, Mr. Howard L. Cogswell, will speak on "Birds of the Chaparral" and will show slides. Guests are always welcome at these meetings.

— MRS. BUDD J. SMITH, *Program Chairman.*

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following: from Alameda, Henry R. Wagner, Jr.; from Alamo, Miss Lucille Weber; from Berkeley, Miss Clara E. Bailey, Mrs. Luella Blair, Francis M. Campbell, Dr. Kermit H. Gruberg, Dr. Lawrence W. Larson, G. B. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. McAuliffe, Miss Verah Shafsky, Mrs. Frank Wentworth; from Eureka, N. C. Bowles; from Fairfax, Mrs. Frances Tuber; from Healdsburg, Mrs. Elmer P. Kayser; from Mill Valley, R. P. Barker, Miss Mary Westwood; from Needles, Mrs. Ruth Mannix; from Oakland, Mrs. C. E. Bourdon, Mrs. Fely deVille-Abrille, Alvah P. Leverett, Mr. and Mrs. Bert McGuire, Mrs. Addison G. Strong; from San Francisco, Arnold H. Fox, Miss Ruth J. Keller, Mrs. George Learned, Mrs. David Manning, Mrs. Ruby E. Robb, Miss Bertha Romaine, Mrs. B. W. Stone, Fred E. Turner; from San Rafael, Miss Lucy E. Cook, Mrs. P. S. Marrin; from Sausalito, Mrs. Pratt Palmer.

— DOROTHY DEAN SCOTT, *Membership Chairman.*

OBSERVATIONS: OSPREY, St. Mary's College, April 5 - 7 (A. S. Campbell); WESTERN FLYCATCHER, St. Mary's College, April 4 (ASC).

Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

Established January 25, 1917

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Changes of Address should be sent to the Membership Chairman; claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Distribution Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National \$5.00 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE. Local Membership only, \$1.50 per year.

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